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Speed and Red Light Camera Laws

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Speed and red light cameras are a type of automated enforcement technology used to detect and deter speeders and red light runners. Some jurisdictions use similar technology for other traffic violations, such as illegal rail crossings or toll violations.



Many states have enacted legislation either permitting, limiting or prohibiting the use of speed or red light cameras at the state or local level. Enforcement can be limited to a particular area or community. Penalties usually are more lenient than those used with traditional enforcement. For example, the fine may be lower, points may not be assessed, or the citation may not go on the driver's record.

Some localities operate speed and/or red light cameras even if the state does not specific permit or prohibit it. The Insurance Institute of Highway Safety maintains <u>a list of all communities operating automated enforcement</u>. This list changes and is updated regularly.

Learn More About Speed and Red Light Cameras

Speed Cameras

12 states have passed laws that prohibit (with very narrow exceptions) the use of speed cameras. 29 states have no law addressing speed cameras. All other states either permit the use of speed cameras (2 + D.C.) or limit their use by location or other criteria (7 + U.S. Virgin Islands).

Related Links

Issue Brief

13 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands have speed cameras currently operating in at least one location.

Red Light Cameras

- 21 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands have enacted laws permitting some form of red light camera use. 9 states prohibit their use, and 20 states have no state law concerning red light camera enforcement.
- 24 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands have red light cameras currently operating at least one location.

NOTE: GHSA does not compile any additional data on speed and red light camera laws other than what is presented here. For more information, consult the appropriate State Highway Safety Office.

State	Violation / State Law	Permitted Locations/Criteria	Citation Issued To / Liability	lmage Taken	Penalties (Traditional Penalties)		
Ala.	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: Limited	Montgomery	Owner/ Owner	2 images; tag included	\$110; no points (\$100; 3 points)		
<u>Alaska</u>	Speed: No state law	or programs					
	Red light: No state la	w or programs					
Ariz.	Speed: Permitted	Statewide	Not addressed	Not addressed	\$165; 3 points (\$250; 3 points)		
	Red light: Permitted				\$165; 2 points (\$250; 2 points)		
Ark.	Speed: Prohibited (with narrow exceptions)	School zones or rail crossings when officer is present and citation issued at time of offense. No current programs.					
	Red light: Prohibited (with narrow exceptions)						
Calif.	Speed: No state law, but program operating on MRCA park roads.						
	Red light: Permitted	Statewide	Registered owner/ Driver	Tag and driver	\$490 (\$100 fine + \$390 in penalties and assessments); 1 point (same)		
	Rail crossing: Permitted	Statewide					
Colo.	Speed: Limited	Construction and school zones, residential areas or adjacent to municipal park	Registered owner/ Driver	Tag and driver	\$40 max. (\$80 school zone); no points or record; warning for 1st offense if <10 mph over (\$151 inc surcharge; 4 points)		

	Red light: Permitt	ed Statewide			\$75; no points or record (\$111 i surcharge; 4 points)		
Conn	Speed: No state l	aw or programs			Surdinge, 4 points)		
	Red light: No state law or programs						
Del.	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: Permitte	ed Statewide	Registered owner/ Owner	2 or more image of vehicle	s \$110 max.; not record or conviction offense; not used by insurers (\$75-\$230)		
D.C.	Speed: Permitted	Districtwide	Registered owner/ Owner	Not addressed	\$75-\$300 fine based on the MP over posted limit; no points (\$75-\$300 fine; 3, 4 or 5 points based on the MPH over posted limit)		
	Red light: Permitte	d Districtwide			\$150; no points (\$150; 2 points)		
<u>Fla.</u>	Speed: No state la	w or programs			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
	Red light: Permitte	d Statewide	Registered owner/ Owner	Tag and traffic control device	\$158; no points (\$125; 3 points)		
<u>Ga.</u>	Speed: No state la	w or programs	<u></u>				
	Red light: Permitte		Registered owner/ Owner	License tag, intersection and light	\$70 max.; not conviction or reco offense; no points; not moving violation; not used by insurers (\$1,000 max.; 3 points)		
Hawaii							
	Red light: No state						
daho	Speed: No state lav	w or programs					
	Red light: No state	law or programs					
<u>III.</u>	Speed: Limited	Construction zones or toll roads. Local use prohibited. State use only when officer is present and witnesses the event.	Registered owner/ Driver	Tag and driver	\$250 or 25 hrs. community servi (\$250 mandatory; 20 points)		
	Red light: Limited	Local ordinance required	Registered owner/ Owner	2 or more images of vehicle and tag	\$100 and/or traffic education program; not moving violation or record offense (\$500 max.; 20 points)		
	Rail crossing: Limited	Local ordinance required; in cooperation w/ IL DOT and IL Commerce Commission	Registered owner/ Driver (owner if driver not identified by owner)	Vehicle, driver and tag	\$250 or 25 hrs. community servic (\$250 max. 1st offense; \$500 subsequent, w/ discretionary 6 month suspension		
nd.	Speed: No state law	or programs	<u> </u>	<u> </u>			
	Red light: No state I	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
wa	 	, but programs operating under local ordinance.			<u> </u>		
		aw, but programs operating under local ordinance.					
an.	Speed: No state law						
	Red light: No state law or programs						
y .	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: No state law or programs						
<u>a.</u>	Speed: Limited	Statewide	Not addressed	Not address - d	Range de la constant		
 -	Red light: Limited		.101 000105560	Not addressed	Per state law, convictions not reported on driving record		
laine	Speed: Prohibited						
_	Red light: Prohibited						
<u>d.</u>	Speed: Limited	Montgomery Co. school zones & residential; Prince George's Co. school zones; statewide school zones (by local ordinance) and work zones on expressways or controlled access highways	Registered owner/ Owner	2 or more images of rear of vehicle and tag in any medium	\$40 max.: no points (\$500 max. in residential; \$1,000 max. in work & school zones; points vary)		
	Red light: Permitted	Statewide	er .		\$75 max. civil penalty; no points or record; not moving violation; not used by insurers (\$500 max.; 2 points)		

	Rail: Limited	Montgomery Co. and Prince George's Co.		Vehicle, driver and tag	\$100 max.; no points (\$500 max.)		
Mass	Speed: No state la	w or programs					
	Red light: No state law or programs						
Mich.	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: No state law or programs						
Minn.	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: No state law or programs						
Miss.	Speed: Prohibited						
	Red light: Prohibited						
Mo.	Speed: No state law, but programs operating under Missouri DOT policy.						
	Red light: No state law, but programs operating under Missouri DOT policy.						
Mont.	Speed: Prohibited				<u> </u>		
	Red light: Prohibite	-d					
	Rail: Permitted		·····				
Neb.	Speed: No state la	w or programs	<u> </u>				
	Red light: No state						
Nev.	Speed: Prohibited	If hand held by officer, installed in vehicle or facil	lity of law enforce	ment agency. No.	\$1,000 max.; 4 points. (same)		
1.4041	(with narrow exceptions)	current programs.	my or law concree	ment agency. No	\$1,000 max.; 4 points. (same)		
	Red light: Prohibited (with narrow exceptions)						
N.H.	Speed: Prohibited						
	Red light: Prohibite						
	Toll: Permitted						
۱.J.	Speed: Prohibited				,		
1.0.	Red light: Limited	Local ordinance required; must apply apply to	Tpo siede en d	Ta :			
	red igit. Limited	Transportation Commissioner for pilot program	Registered owner/ Registered owner and driver jointly liable	2 or more images of vehicle and tag			
<u>I.M.</u>	Speed: Limited	DOT has banned on state and federal roads; localities must post warning sign and beacon	Not addressed	Not addressed	\$75 max. civil penalty; no points of criminal sanctions; municipality		
	Red light: Limited				retains operating costs; balance to court construction, drug courts and DWI prevention		
<u>l.Y.</u>	Speed: No state law	or programs		. •			
	Red light: Limited	Cities of ≥1,000,000 (max. 150 sites); or by local ordinance	Owner/ Owner	2 or more images of rear of vehicle and tag in any medium	\$50; not record or conviction offense; not used by insurers (\$100 max.; 3 points)		
. <u>C.</u>	Speed: No state law	or programs					
	Red light: Limited	Specified in law	Owner/ Owner	Photo, video, electronic image	\$50 max. civil penalty; no points; \$100 if late (\$100 max.; 3 points)		
.D.	Speed: No state law	or programs	<u> </u>	.L	Transit o bourto)		
	Red light: No state la	w or programs					
hio		but programs operating under local ordinance.			<u></u>		
		w, but programs operating under local ordinance.	<u> </u>				
da.		Speed: No state law or programs					
_	Red light: No state la		<u> </u>				
re.	Speed: Limited	Specified in law (limited to 4 hrs/day for each location)	Registered owner or driver, if identifiable/ Registered owner		1-10 mph over = \$110; \$220 in work/school zone or safety comdor; \$250 max. 11-20 mph over = \$160; \$320 in work/school zone or safety corridor; \$500 max. 21-30 mph over = \$260; \$520 in		

					30+ mph over = \$435 + 30 day license suspension; \$870 in work/school zone or safety corridor; \$2,000 max. 100 mph or more = \$1,150 fine + 30- to 90-day license suspension (same for traditional enforcement)		
	Red light: Permitted	Any city within city limits, no other locations are authorized, run by city jurisdiction			\$260; \$520 in work/school zone or safety corridor; \$1,000 max. (same for traditional enforcement)		
<u>Pa.</u>	Speed: No state lav	v or programs					
	Red light: Limited	Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and municipalities w/ a population >20,000 and police depat. accredited by the Penn. Chiefs of Police Assoc. in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties; requires local ordinance	Registered owner/ Owner	Photos	\$100 max.; not on operating record (\$25 max.; 3 points)		
<u>R.i.</u>	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: Permitted	Statewide	Registered owner/ Registered owner	2 or more images of vehicle and tag in any medium	\$75 max.; not criminal or record offense; not moving violation; not used by insurers until final adjudication (\$75)		
	School bus safety violations: Permitted		Registered owner/ Owner		\$500; not criminal or record offense; not moving violation; not used by insurers (\$500)		
<u>s.c.</u>	Speed: Prohibited				<u> </u>		
	Red light: Prohibited						
<u>S.D.</u>	Speed: No state law						
	Red light: No state la	aw or programs					
Tenn.	Speed: Permitted Red light: Permitted	Statewide except non-work zone interstates	Registered owner/ Registered	Not addressed	Not reportable; no points (\$50; points)		
			owner				
<u>Texas</u>	Speed: Prohibited						
	Red light: Limited	Local ordinance required	Registered owner/ Owner	2 or more photos or digital images of tag	\$75 max.; not criminal or record offense (\$200 max.)		
<u>Utah</u>	Speed: Prohibited (with narrow exceptions). No current programs.	School zones w/ ≤30 mph speed limit; officer must be present; local ordinance required	Not addressed	Photo	Not reportable; no points (\$1,000 max.; 50 points)		
	Red light: No state la	w or programs	<u> </u>				
Vt.	Speed: No state law or programs						
	Red light: No state la	w or programs		'			
<u>V.I.</u>	Speed: Limited	Beginning or end of highway	Driver or registered owner	Photo electron image	\$25 or 2 to 12 points		
	Red light: Limited						
Va.	Speed: No state law	or programs					
	Red light: Limited	Local ordinance required; 1 site per 10,000 residents (up to 10 sites in D.C. area)	Registered owner/ Driver		\$50 max.; no court costs; not criminal offense; no points; not used by insurers (\$200 max.; 4 points)		
Wash.	Speed: Limited	School zones	Registered		Max. parking violation fine; no		
	Red light: Limited	Where two arterial roads intersect	owner/ Owner	tag	record; no points (\$250 max.)		
	Rail crossing: Permitted	Statewide		a	(4200 IIIBA.)		
<u>W.Va.</u>	Speed: Prohibited						
	Red light: Prohibited						
<u>∕⁄is.</u>	Speed: Prohibited						
	Red light: Prohibited						
Λуο.	Speed: No state law or programs						

Speed Cameras Prohibited: 12 Limited: 7 + Virgin Islands Permitted: 2 + D.C. No state law: 29	Red Light Cameras Prohibited: 9 Limited: 11 + Virgin Islands Permitted: 10 + D.C. No state law: 20
Have program(s) operating: 13 + D.C., Virgin Islands	Have program(s) operating: 24 + D.C., Virgin Islands

Sources: National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) and State Highway Safety Offices.

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